



# DAIRY SECTOR DEVELOPMENT IN AFGHANISTAN



## BACKGROUND

Afghanistan is a traditional livestock country and was in the past self-sufficient in livestock products. In 1998, FAO started dairy sector development activities with the support of the Government of the United Kingdom and the United Nations Development Programme, followed by the Government of Germany in 2002. The interest for the development of the dairy sector came from both consumers and producers.

## METHOD

### INTEGRATED DAIRY SCHEME APPROACH

- Improvement of fodder resources
- Training in improved animal husbandry and animal health practices
- Setting up of milk processing and marketing centers
- Organization of farmers into milk producer groups
- Formalization of enterprises through milk producer cooperatives
- Organization of cooperatives into regional bodies



## RESULTS

- Annual income of farmers has increased from 374 USD to 725 USD from selling surplus milk production (2005 – 2012)
- Rural women control over 80% of the cash earned from milk and have full authority on how this income is spent
- At the farm level milk production per animal has more than doubled
- Dairy Unions have been established in Kabul, Balkh and Kunduz

